

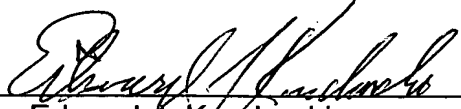
associated therewith. Upon translation of the application, the dependent claims will be reintroduced as singly dependent claims.

Respectfully submitted,

KERKAM, STOWELL, KONDRACKI
& CLARKE, P.C.

Date: December 15, 1999

By:


Edward J. Kondracki
Reg. No. 20,604

Two Skyline Place, Suite #600
5203 Leesburg Pike
Falls Church, Virginia 22041
Telephone: (703) 998-3302

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